10/523560



Please replace the heading before paragraph [0017] with the following amended heading as follows:

~~Detailed Description of the Exemplary Embodiments~~ DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0017], [0018] and [0019]

Please amend paragraph ~~[0017]~~ as follows:

[0017] Figure 1 shows the top view of an ironing board 1, and Fig. 2 shows a cross sectional view. Ironing board 1 has, as is known, a board surface 2 made of expanded metal. A nonwoven layer 4, whose top is provided with barbs for a hook-and-loop fastener, is glued around the entire edge 3 of board surface 2. The contour of padding 5 (see Figure 2) of ironing board cover 6 is designed such that it corresponds to the contour of ironing board 1. In addition, its bottom 7 is also provided with a nonwoven layer 8, whose design corresponds to nonwoven layer 4 ~~8~~ on top face 9 of ironing board 1. However, this nonwoven layer 8 ~~4~~ is provided with loops, so that the hooks of nonwoven layer 4 of the ironing board may engage with them.

[0018] Figure 2 shows the individual parts in an exploded view. After ironing board cover 6 is placed on ironing board 1 and pressed by hand, a sufficiently strong connection is produced between ironing board cover 6 and ironing board 1. It should also be noted that only legs 13 ~~10~~ are indicated under the ironing board; all other parts have been omitted.

[0019] Figures 3 and 4 show another option for the form-fitting connection between ironing board cover 6 and ironing board 1. Also in this case the contour of padding 5 corresponds to the contour of ironing board 1. However, padding 5 is attached to ironing board 1 by providing padding 5 with a peripheral edge 10 ~~13~~, which has a bulge 12 engaging with peripheral edge 11 of ironing board 1 from behind. In the area of bulge 12, padding 5 is provided with a material stiffening, which is indicated by the darker shading. This material stiffening further reinforces the fit of ironing board cover 6 on ironing board 1. To achieve material stiffening, padding 5 may be impregnated in the area of bulge 12 with a cross-linkable polymer. After impregnation, the polymer is hardened, for example, by applying heat.